
















Timeline / Before 1800 to After 1930 / MOROCCO / POLITICAL CONTEXT

Date	Country	Theme
1810 - 1822	Morocco	Political Context
	<p>In relation to trade policy, Mulay Sulayman opposes the liberalism of his father Muhammad Ibn 'Abd Allah by passing an edict in 1814 imposing a 50 per cent duty on imports, and takes restrictive measures by banning the export of most Moroccan commodities to Europe, including grain, oil, wool, animal hides and livestock. The years of drought and swarms of locusts that devastated all crops between 1810 and 1816 caused a shortage of basic commodities, price increases and famine, on top of the plague epidemics that swept the country. All of these factors necessarily weakened the country financially and demographically. This could help to explain the inward-looking policies adopted by the sovereign Mulay Sulayman, who—according to some historical sources—claimed that he did not need Europe and hoped that Europe did not need him. A desperate and exhausted Mulay Sulayman resigned and chose his nephew Mulay 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Hisham as his successor.</p>	
1822 - 1859	Morocco	Political Context
	<p>At the beginning of his reign, Mulay Sulayman adopts a policy to isolate the country, excluding contact with the European and even Turkish worlds. He leant on the national brotherhoods and maintained mediaeval, feudal ways of life that eschewed Western technical innovations which he deemed to be dangerous. He nonetheless signed agreements with Portugal in 1823, England in 1824 and France in 1825, under pressure to change his position on account of the international situation. During the first third of the 19th century, Morocco was subject to systematic pressure from rapidly expanding European imperialism.</p>	
1830 - 1844	Morocco	Political Context
<p>The French expedition to Algeria arouses strong emotions in Morocco. It was understood to be a direct threat, in particular following incursions by French troops into eastern Morocco. Mulay 'Abd al-Rahman accepted the call of the people of Tlemcen and gave his support to the religious and military leader 'Abd al-Qadir.</p>		
1844	Morocco	Political Context
<p>The Battle of Isly is fought on 14 August 1844 between the Moroccan army employing an archaic strategy against professional soldiers trained in the Napoleonic campaigns and armed with batteries of light guns. The battle ended with the defeat of the Moroccans. The consequences of this defeat were grave for Morocco. It was the first time the country had lost a battle in more than two centuries, and it showed Mulay 'Abd al-Rahman just how weak his army was.</p>		
1856	Morocco	Political Context
	<p>In 1856 a treaty is signed, initiated by Britain in order to strengthen its influence over Morocco and to maintain its naval supremacy in the Mediterranean, which hugely undermines Moroccan sovereignty. This treaty wrested control over the extent of European penetration away from the governing institution of Morocco the Makhzen. The advantages gained by European traders, combined with their superior technique and the quantity of capital behind them, enabled then to monopolise most of the sea trade and to reduce Moroccan players to mere intermediaries.</p>	

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1859 - 1873	Morocco	Political Context
	Reign of Muhammad Ibn 'Abd al-Rahman: with a view to overhauling the machinery of administration, Muhammad IV creates an administrative school, the Madrasa Makhzenia, and proceeds to modernise financial and tax services. He also thought about modernising the army, both in terms of soldier training and equipment. This was eventually achieved by his son Mulay al-Hasan I.	
1859 - 1860	Morocco	Political Context
	The Tétouan war of 6 February 1860: the Spanish, seeking to extend the borders of Ceuta and Melilla, exploit a raid by a neighbouring tribe against a redoubt built outside the walls of Ceuta to launch a major military action and occupy Tétouan. To end the occupation of Tétouan, the Moroccan state was obliged to pay a significant sum (20 million douros), which it was unable to do. As a result, it was forced to seek a foreign loan that it was able to pay back using customs revenues.	
1863	Morocco	Political Context
	The intention of the trade treaty signed with France in August 1863 is to curb the damaging effects of protectionism and to limit the extent of European penetration but, subverted from its original purpose, it becomes one of the causes of the protectionism problem. The Dahir of June 1864 then proclaimed freedom of trade throughout the Sharifian Empire. The conventions of 1856, 1860–1 and 1863 established the legal bases for relations between Morocco and Europe. Europe's influence then began to grow.	
1873 - 1894	Morocco	Political Context
	Reign of Mulay al-Hasan I: Mulay al-Hasan I maintains the political independence of the country. He attempted to adapt the country to its new circumstances and employed a policy of reforms, affecting all areas of political and economic life, to improve the management of public affairs.	
1880	Morocco	Political Context
	The intention of the 1880 Madrid Conference, reflected in the agreements signed by Morocco under the reign of Mulay al-Hasan I and the countries of Europe, is to enhance the benefits of reform in Morocco and to provide a legal and regulatory framework for Mulay al-Hasan I. Following these agreements, the European countries won the right to own land and assets throughout Morocco. The agreements were the result of globalisation of Moroccan business.	
1894 - 1908	Morocco	Political Context
	Having ascended to the throne too young, Mulay 'Abd al 'Aziz must act under the regency of his father mulay al-Hasan I's chamberlain for almost six years. Upon his father death in 1900, Mulay 'Abd al 'Aziz took up the reins of power and made clear his desire to restructure the governing institution of Morocco, the Makhzen. He worked on the modernisation of the army and stabilisation of the currency. He relaunched the project to ensure universal application of the tartib tax, which he	

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		wanted to apply to all foreigners and protégés. This project naturally displeased the consular corps.
1905	Morocco	Political Context
		Emperor Wilhelm II visits Tangiers on 3 March 1905, keen to prevent diplomatic isolation of his country and to safeguard Germany's economic interests.
1906	Morocco	Political Context
		The Algeiras Conference of 1906 endorses the intervention of Western powers in Morocco, granting special rights to both Spain and France.
1907	Morocco	Political Context
		Colonial rivalries: the Moroccan crisis brings about a new raft of trade agreements between the English and the French, with the participation of the Spanish, sharing out Morocco and Egypt, which is greeted with dismay by Moroccans.
1907 - 1912	Morocco	Political Context
		A series of incidents provoke the intervention of the French army when in August 1907 the French land in Casablanca and occupy Oujda, Casablanca and Fez, despite opposition from Germany.
1912	Morocco	Political Context
		Mulay 'Abd al 'Aziz is deposed and replaced by his brother Mulay 'Abd al-Hafiz (1908–12), who is proclaimed ruler in Marrakesh on 6 August 1907. He was then obliged to sign the treaty establishing the protectorate in Fez on 20 March 1912.
1912	Morocco	Political Context
		In November 1912 the Madrid Convention makes northern Morocco a Spanish protectorate.
1919 - 1934	Morocco	Political Context

Date

Country

Theme



Moroccan resistance is spirited, and provokes many Berber revolts. Following the surrender of Muhammad ibn 'Abd al-Alkrim, who led the peasant revolts in the Rif (1919–26), France launched a campaign of “pacification” that lasted until 1934.
